

# *Poetry*

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**Poetry**

(second Edition)

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# *Poems*

# The Fire-Dragon

O' great Dragon,  
Fly and Fight,  
With your fierce and  
And fiery might.  
Find a town,  
High or low,  
And burn it down.  
Turn the timbers,  
Strong and fine,  
Into cinders,  
Hot and bright,  
In a flaming  
Funeral pyre  
Rising in  
A swirling spire.  
Go, fly, fight,  
For, one day,  
You'll meet your knight.

# Stormy Night

There is nothing like a sunny day,  
Though I must also say,  
There is nothing like a stormy night,  
Something I greet with delight!  
For in the lightning I do see  
God's Eternal Mastery;  
In His fireworks I do find  
Beauty beyond the mortal kind.

# Normalcy

Normalcy, it seems to me,  
is nothing but stupidity,  
plus evil of a great degree.  
I will be free, I will be free,  
I will not have your normalcy.

What do normal people do?  
They're selfish, yelling "Me, not you."  
And quite cruel, yes, it's true,  
vicious things they often do.

Why do normal people chime,  
"I want revenge" - when there's no crime?  
They're always fighting, all the time,  
with no reason, and little rhyme.

In them no logic can I find!  
Their arguments - which are not kind -  
are but word games in the mind.  
On a Poisoned Tree they all have dined!

Normalcy, it seems to me,  
is nothing but stupidity -  
plus evil to a great degree!  
I think I'll keep my sanity -  
I will not have your normalcy!  
So I'll be free, oh I'll be free!



# Lonesome Prayer

Alone, O' God, I fear I am -  
Alone, just like that very first man.  
To loneliness you did not damn,  
You had for him a better plan!

A partner did you give to him.  
Do it now, do it again.  
For life alone, it is to grim,  
So let for me some love begin!

# Lonely

Lonely, lonely, always lonely -  
Stuck alone with myself only.  
Why'm I lonely? Always lonely -  
Why can't I find just one love only?  
Why am I lonely, always lonely -  
Always lonely, oh so lonely?  
Why must I be always lonely?  
All I want is some love only -  
Companionship, just one friend only!  
But still I'm lonely - oh so lonely!

# The Great Shepherd

Through the rain &  
Through the storm,  
He will always keep me warm.

Through the day &  
Through the night,  
He will be my Guiding Light.

Through the night &  
Through the day,  
He will lead me on my way.

For though I stumble &  
Though I fall,  
He will never leave at all.

# To God

My Faults are Many,  
My Virtues are Few,  
But all I am,  
Belongs to You.

# Who, Me?

Now new,  
But who!?!  
The old is past,  
Better comes - Fast!

# Love

Love is, indeed,  
A strange feeling.  
My heart will bleed,  
My heart will sing!

Some ask me,  
"Can it be true?"  
All is lovely  
When I see you.

So do I say,  
When asked of you,  
I'd smile all the day  
Were I with you.

# Warmed by Love

A gentle Wind upon the hills -  
The rain is here, but brings no chills,  
For to my Heart my Love is near, and She it all but stills.

# Of Love

I found myself in love  
And knew not what to do!  
Sweetness sent from from up above,  
A girl with beauty true.  
So can she then love me?  
So this alone I pray.  
For my very heart has she  
Taken in her hand. So may  
She one day love me to.  
My heart can't stay away,  
Indeed my love is true!

# The Sweetheart

I met the sweetest girl, one cloudy day,  
Sitting alone, all dressed in gray.  
Nothing did she have to say,  
So I said "Hello" and "How's your day?"

She looked at me, so very shy,  
Flashed a grin, and just said "Hi."  
She drew to me no further nigh -  
I couldn't help but wonder why.

I played with her for quite some time -  
A month at least; I'd bet a dime.  
Her sweetness was, indeed, sublime -  
Though to silent for a mime.

I thought I saw her start to fall!  
I reached for her, her doom to stall.  
But she gasped a gasp of great appall  
Begging "Don't touch, don't touch at all!"

I apologized, with some dismay -  
Then I turned, and walked away.

# The Good Death

Death, Death -

Let me draw my last breath,  
And enter the Peace of the realm called Death.

Life, Life -

It's so full of strife;  
Why do I cling to this miserable Life?

Why, Why -

Must I sit and sign,  
Wearily watching the years roll by?

When, When -

Will I ever win?  
When will I ever have reason to grin?

When, When -

What horrible sin  
Could have earned such a horrid chagrin?

End, End -

I wish it would end;  
I'm ready into my grave to descend.

Death, Death -

Let me draw my last breath,  
And enter the peace of the realm called Death!!!

# Melellenna

Mellellenna was an elven mage,  
Who in strange games oft did engage.  
She was not one to enrage,  
For she was a warrior, not a sage,  
And many a battle did she wage  
Back in her days - the ancient age.

Mellellenna was fine and fair  
With violet eyes and golden hair.  
Shining armor did she wear,  
Far fewer wounds for to bare.  
For of fights she had her share,  
With monsters from a hidden lair.

In cloak of gray and skirt of blue  
Many great deeds did she do.  
She was among the hardy few  
Who's epic deeds no limit knew.  
Truly honor she is due;  
Who did so much, yet rarely slew!

# Goodbye, My Love

My heart is broke  
I know not what to do.  
All I want  
is to be with you.

I'd have done anything,  
even have died.  
To make you happy  
I always tried.

But now I'm lost  
and know not where to turn  
And for you  
my heart does yearn.

I don't know  
what to do or say.  
I'll still think of you  
All throug the day.

You were part of me  
I know its true.  
You always will be  
though I don't have you.

My love grew  
just as I said;  
I only hope yours  
is not dead.

Still I'm glad  
we were together,  
and that you  
became my lover.

I'll never forget  
what I thought we had.  
And I'll never regret,  
thought I'll be sad.

Someday, perhaps,  
my heart will heal,  
but that doesn't change  
how I now feel.

For you I'd have given  
my very life.  
I hoped one day  
You'd be my wife.

But if you now  
choose to go,  
I wish you happiness  
and never woe.

I guess its time  
we each go our way,  
I know not  
what else to say.

But if you ever  
need a friend,  
You know I'll care  
until the end.

# Dragon Snare

The dragon lurks deep in the leaves.  
He hardly moves and hardly breaths,  
And for his victim never grieves –  
For deep inside his hunger seethes.

Through day and the night he quietly waits  
For some poor fool to test the fates –  
And then he never hesitates,  
But still his hunger never sates.

I know the dragon lurks out there,  
In the water and in the air,  
And every place becomes his lair –  
And many fall into his snare.

The dragon's everywhere you see;  
He follows you and follows me.  
He hides behind each rock and tree,  
And there's nothing he cannot be.

And he'll surely catch us all  
As one by one we all must fall,  
For this dragon devours us all  
As one by one we all must fall.

# Floating Island

Paradise floats on a sea  
Of turbulence that's beneath me.  
The illusion's so great and grand,  
But there's no safety in this land.  
And so I'm tossed upon the waves –  
My island only briefly saves –  
For when the storms hit hard on me  
My island sinks into the sea.



# Deeds of Yesterday

They won't let pass away  
The deeds of Yesterday.  
Those days have long gone away,  
Yet in the past they stay.

They're expecting I will be  
An older form of me,  
And so they just will not see  
That's no longer me.

Still I try so hard to show –  
Just to let them all know –  
But they will not let me grow,  
Cannot let the past go.

Did they even know me then?  
How can I ever win?!?  
All thing must change when children  
Grow and turn into men.

Why is it they just can't see  
Who I was is not me,  
Just the child I use to be!  
From the past set me free!

# A Moment of Peace

As I walk beneath the trees  
And feel the cool summer breeze  
I'm so glad to be alive –  
Amazed at how I did survive.

Though the past was hard on me  
I look forward hopefully.  
The future I still can't see –  
Hope it will be good to me.

No, the world was never kind,  
But now I find peace of mind.  
Life was surely not easy,  
But here and now I feel free.

# Fear

I went looking for someone like me  
So I wouldn't be so lonely.  
But there was no one I could see  
Who was anything at all like me.  
And no one there that I did see  
Saw any reason to be friendly –  
And the only thing that they did see  
Were difference between them and me!  
No, they were surely no like me,  
And so I left them still lonely  
For there was no friend I could see.  
So is there anyone for me  
Or will I always be lonely?

# Seeing Stars

The stars twinkling overhead  
Make me glad we're not in bed,  
For out here it's lovely  
And I'm glad you're here with me.

The stars twinkling in your eyes  
Speak of love and tell no lies  
As I hold you in my arms  
And I'm dazzled by your charms.

I hold you here all the night –  
Nothing ever felt so right –  
Every night I see you here  
I come to hold you more dear.

There no place I'd rather be  
Than out here with you with me,  
Beneath the stars so very high  
And with the love in your eye.

# Melellenna's Song

As the leaves drift off from the trees  
And float upon the Summer's Breeze  
I can go where ever I please -  
Over mountains and the seas  
And even through jungles like these -  
Across the world, through all degrees.  
I can do whatever I please  
And all the world is mine to seize  
For I can go were er' I please  
As free as leaves upon the breeze.

# The Magic Skiff

Standing upon this lovely shore  
Like one from ancient tales of yore  
The mist swirls in a gentle breeze  
And I see outlined distant trees.

Before me is a skiff so fine,  
Where some great king mine dine with wine,  
Where violet vales were hung from poles  
By some sweet but forgotten souls.

I take your hand and climb aboard  
So this great lake we both may ford  
To an island of the most blessed  
Where I so long to be a guest.

I set us both gently adrift  
And feel no reason to be swift.  
I like the journey long and slow  
We will enjoy it as we go.

For as I drift with you out here  
I feel such peace and have no fear  
And feel feeling for you so dear  
And don't care if the island's near.

Feeling such wondrous, holy awe  
As one absorbed in all he saw  
Here in this mystic world of myth  
And with the woman I am with.

Then we reach that glorious shore –  
Like Avalon of ancient yore –  
Feeling the joy I can't contain  
From kissing we just can't refrain.

But we're only visitor here  
And soon we must go home my dear.  
But I'm so glad we don't just stay –  
I'd rather journey here each day!

# The Swamp

In the swamp I walk alone.  
Birds sing in this their home.  
Beneath the trees I roam,  
Like a ghost – all alone.

Beneath spiders and leaves,  
By plants green and pools black,  
Never wanting to go back  
Home to where my heart grieves.

Its here my heart is home.  
So deep in this dark wild,  
Where I am Nature's child,  
In freedom as I roam.

So soothing to me soul –  
Where no enemy I know –  
Beauty wherever I go –  
It's here that I feel whole.

This wooded, watery land –  
Peaceful shade, living green –  
Such beauty to be seen –  
Trees and flowers, pools and sand –

Haven to the unloved.

# The Miserable Place

There is a place that I sure hate –  
And to go back I can't wait.  
For only in this awful place  
Do I find a friendly face.

In this place of toil and stress,  
Where I know my life's a mess,  
The only place where I have friends –  
Only there loneliness ends.

Happiest in the place I hate –  
What a strange and dreadful fate.  
If I had a life elsewhere  
I'd never want to go there.

I don't want to stay away –  
Don't mind going every day.  
At least I don't even care  
That I spend so much time there.

Its very sad, yes I know –  
I've got nowhere else to go.  
Yes, my life is full of woe;  
At least I have a place to go!

I don't mind having to go  
Where I'll find someone I know.  
Loneliness is the real curse,  
So I know it could be worse.

It's a place I hate to be,  
But at least I'm not lonely.  
The miserable place to me  
Is not the worst that I see.

## The 32<sup>cd</sup>

I had fallen hard and low  
And didn't know which way to go.  
The time came to live again  
And couldn't wait to begin.

As I feel my strength return  
To rejoin life I sure yearn.  
Power flows into my veins  
With the will no one restrains.

As bit by bit I awake,  
First a shiver then a shake,  
Then I stretch and gasp for air,  
Then I start to rise from there.

And I finally stand upright  
Ready to rejoin the fight.  
Stronger than I was before,  
This time I will win this war.

So my life begins anew  
And I find I've much to do.  
Yes, I'm really back again  
Better now than I was then.

# Waking Up

I had a dream that seemed so sweet  
A fantasy that nothing could beat  
The future seemed so bright ahead  
I couldn't see the end was dead.

The dream went on and turned so bleak  
A way out was all I could seek .  
It was a nightmare everyday  
But to get out I saw no way.

Then I woke up, it seemed to me  
That I was finally getting free  
But I was still caught in the dream  
Though more peaceful it did seem.

Then something shook me so I stirred  
Opening my eyes without a word  
For there was nothing that I heard  
And I knew not what had occurred.

So I got myself out of bed  
And quickly tried to clear my head.  
And I began getting dressed  
To go outside and see the rest.

But then I found my world was gone  
For while I dozed time had went on,  
And now the world seemed so strange  
As the things I knew had to change.

And I was lost in this new land -  
For such change I had not planned -  
Having no idea what I should do  
Having long the world I once knew.

Now I know how van Winkle felt  
With the hand he had been dealt.  
So I began exploring things  
Just to see what the present brings.



# The Outsider

Can I really be so proud  
Just to say I have no crowd?  
It sure seems somethings wrong  
That there's nowhere I belong.

Those I find seem like me  
Are younger than they should be  
And their world is not mine  
And seems of such strange design.

People who seem so old  
Are my age I'm often told.  
Am I the only one  
In my own generation?

Rednecks and the high class,  
And old hippies talking crass,  
And others all abound  
In this new world I have found!

Label me I can't do  
So I'll leave that up to you,  
Hoping that some will find  
That I'm one of their own kind!

## The Lost Ones

Where on Earth did they all go?  
I fear that I'll never know.  
It seems not all that long ago  
That I treasured them all so.

Are they on Earth at all?  
Is there a way I could call?  
Across my life is a wall  
Like they never were at all.

Was our time all but a dream?  
That's the way it sure does seem.  
I long that I could redeem  
Those days that now seem a dream.

But the ones I loved I've lost  
For time has made that its cost –  
Or perhaps it's I that tossed  
Away the ones that now are lost.

Could I bring them back today  
I'd not let them get away –  
But where to look I can't say  
For they are all lost today!

## Candles

The candles burn,  
They light the room  
And for their term  
Dispel the gloom.

Their light's so soft,  
With their warm glow  
Sitting aloft  
All things will show.

So calm they seem  
And give such cheer  
That in their gleam  
All things seem dear.

They burn their while  
And as they burn  
They make me smile  
And cease to yearn.

Then one by one  
They all go out  
'Til there are none  
And I'm without.

# Echoes

I hear them in the hall  
And from across the room  
Ringing out from the gloom  
Where no one stands at all.

The voices of the past  
Keep ringing in my head  
From the days now long dead  
And things that could not last.

Echoes from times long gone –  
From things I once held dear  
And people who aren't here –  
Yet still they echo on.

So they ring through the years  
Bringing back all my tears  
And rekindling my fears  
Down the hall of the years.

# Solitude

I'm all alone as you can see.  
It used to seem a tragedy,  
And brought me so much misery,  
But now it seems it is for me.

In company I found no gain  
As people always brought me pain,  
And all alone I'm much more sane,  
And so alone I will remain.

For all alone I know I'm free  
With no one here to bother me!  
And on my own I am happy –  
So in solitude I will be!

# The Stranger

I met a man the other day  
Who seemed so strange I shied away.  
I didn't know who he could be  
But saw him staring back at me.

So seeing him I had to know,  
Was he a forgotten friend or foe?  
I was afraid to ask his name –  
I'd never seen one quite the same.

But fin'ly I walked up to him,  
Through the shadowing light so dim,  
And spoke to him and was surprised  
I never got any replies!

Then I stared back in disbelief,  
Filled both with fear and with relief –  
The image I saw was my own,  
I'd found a mirror, all alone!

# Skills

Now I see my skills come and go –  
Sometimes they shrink instead of grow,  
And the reason I surely know  
Yet seeing this fills me with woe.

With time and opportunity  
You'd see a whole lot more from me –  
But I fear that will never be  
And there's so much you'll never see.

So many things I long to do  
And do them with a skill that's true,  
Creating things that are brand new  
With quality to impress you!

Is this the time that I must see  
There's only so much I can be?  
Could this be the reality  
The time has come for me to see?

# 1993

The warmest days that ever were –  
I knew nothing but felt so sure!  
I did not know where I would go,  
There was so much I did not know,  
With no idea who I could be  
The whole idea unknown to me.  
There was nothing I could not do,  
And I saw God as my friend too!  
Everyone I knew was my friend  
And to this time I saw no end.  
I had these friends always with me  
And was as happy as could be.  
I did the things they say you should,  
Everyone knew I stood for Good.  
So everything seemed as it should  
And all the people were so good!  
Yet I'm still glad it did not last  
And that those days are now long past;  
This never was the place for me  
And did not fit who I would be.

# 1997

All was new, and nothing old  
With skulls and roses in the sun  
And everything so much fun  
With no knowledge of the cold  
And with love for everyone,  
The whole world had just begun.

In the peace that was the night  
And the warmth that was the day  
How everything felt like play  
And everything was just right  
Every night and every day  
And in every single way.

Nothing ever could go wrong  
With many friends all around  
And the joy that did abound  
Like a sweet and happy song  
Where no sadness can be found  
And every hope seemed so sound.

This is where I still call home  
Where I soaked up joyous rain  
And soon forgot all my pain  
And in night would freely roam  
Where I thought my life was sane  
Where I wish I could remain.

And in no way did I lack  
In the gentle, soothing breeze  
As I looked down on the trees.  
In my mind I still go back  
So I can escape the freeze  
In the sun above the trees.

# Misunderstood

If they only knew the things that are true –  
If they only knew all that I have been through –  
If they only knew the things I've had to do –  
If someone knew, if I could just tell you!

Who will listen? Would anyone believe?  
Who'd understand? Would they think I deceive?  
And would they care? Or just want me to leave?  
Would you listen? Would eve you believe?

There is so much I really need to say,  
But who to trust? Who'd hear me out today?  
Would you listen to what I have to say?  
Where would I start, and would I find the way?

# The Cactus Girl

I longed to hold the cactus girl,  
To take her out, give her a whirl.  
But she was one you could not touch  
Though I wanted to so much.  
She in the light soaking up sun  
Way off away from everyone.  
It seemed sometimes she could not talk  
But still beneath the stars we'd walk.  
She was so lively and friendly  
But often fell apart you see  
And for no cause became angry  
At everyone including me.  
She was as lovely as can be  
But still so very prickel'ly.



# She Love's Me Not?

I messed up its my mistake  
But how much more can I take  
And now I know she'll forsake  
The Happiness that we could make.

The first is last; now she'll blast  
Away the hope I held so fast  
The first date is always last  
I feel my hope fading fast.

I didn't do the things I could  
I didn't say the things I should  
I know we could have been good  
With me with her, yes it would.

To think this is my mistake  
She may not quite yet forsake  
And all the joys we may make –  
I messed up, it's my mistake.

# Insanity

I suffer for my sanity  
With turmoil deep inside of me,  
A never-ending malady  
From which I fear I can't be free.

For everywhere there is a judge  
Whose intolerance will not budge  
And for nothing will hold a grudge  
For race, or sex, or life they judge!

And so it seems there's no relief!  
These people even judge belief –  
More harshly than they'd judge a thief!  
And so they spread an endless grief.

Now everyone should just be free  
And learn to let each other be,  
And yet it seems some just can't see  
And make this world seem so crazy!

So many never hesitate  
To show off their mindless hate,  
Or tamper with another's fate  
A hunger they can't seem to sate.

So will this ever go away?  
I fear that this is here to stay  
As many know no other way.  
I hope that it can end one day!

I suffer from insanity –  
From all the madness that I see  
And all of the stupidity  
That fills the world in spite of me!

# What I Lost

Didn't find it in the sky,  
Didn't find in in the trees,  
But in poems just like these,  
That let me know it didn't die.

Couldn't find it in the store,  
But in necklaces I made  
And in paint that's quickly laid -  
An in music I adore.

No one could give it to me  
But when kindness I do show  
Then I have it and I know  
That I have it here with me.

Though it never can be taught  
When I study things I love  
I feel blessed as from above  
With something that can't be bought.

Now that I found what I lost  
I know that my soul is free  
(For the thing I lost was me),  
And I'll keep it at all cost!

# The Death of Worlds

Long ago I found myself hurled  
Into a strange and savage world,  
Where robots, troll, and soldiers fought  
And strange treasures were often sought.  
A land of deserts, swamps, and moors  
Where all was fun despite the wars.  
There I built castles, forts, and more,  
In this strange world that was before  
Where lived creature from mythic lore.  
Then, suddenly, it was no more...

There came a dark and dreary gloom  
And the world I knew met its doom!  
For such things there was now no room,  
And so I slept through endless gloom.

Then there came a world just as odd,  
Ruled by a great and loving god.  
And it was here that art was born –  
Without meaning, just to adorn  
And fill this world with its beauty –  
One-day painting and poetry.  
There I began to seek my mate,  
Thinking at first that I should wait  
But later not to hesitate.  
And then this world too met its fate...

All that was left was misery,  
With fears that made me so angry,  
There was no hope that I could see  
And there seemed nothing left for me.

But now a new world has begun  
I hope to be the final one –  
I hope what's dawning now will be  
A golden age at last for me –  
A grand finale free of strife  
To last for the rest of my life.  
Perhaps I'll even find my bride,  
So that in love I may reside?  
Now things get better year by year!  
I hold this new beginning dear  
And yet there's still much to fear –  
None can know when an end is near...

Each world in which we take a breath,  
Has its own birth and its own death.

*Songs for the  
Loved  
and the  
Unloved*

# Mourning Glory

Looking like loving glory –  
Though life's not treated her well –  
Though often deep in mourning –  
She still blooms in her own hell.

They beat her back, cut her down,  
Yet she comes back with renown.  
Yet, in her desolate place  
Few will see her shining face.

Looking like loving glory –  
Though life's not treated her well –  
Though often deep in mourning –  
She still blooms in her own hell.

Lovely flower of the night –  
Always reaching for the light –  
It doesn't really seem right  
She must bloom out of sight.

Soft and tender, she's hurt so,  
Yet she still continues to grow.  
Struggling on she wins the fight  
And her beauty lights the night.

Lovely flower of the night –  
Always reaching for the light –  
It doesn't really seem right  
She must bloom out of sight.

# Lin Honey

Shining with her sunny sweet smile  
Brightening the day in every way –  
Hearing her lovable little laugh  
Fills me with cheer for all the day.

I find her there, telling her tales –  
Her talk can always entertain.  
With contagious cheer my heart swells.  
I wish with her I could remain.

Oh dear Honey, could it be –  
Could you fall in love with me?  
Oh dear Honey, can't you see  
What it is you do to me?

Oh so seductively sexy,  
Her luminously lovely looks  
Still can't compare with her bubbly  
Beautiful bounce that really hooks.

Credit her kindness, shining sweet,  
Or her lovably lively light –  
To have her with me every day  
Could put an end to endless night.

Oh dear Honey, could it be –  
Could you fall in love with me?  
Oh dear Honey, can't you see  
What it is you do to me?



# Poplar Honey

A heart so sweet and dark –  
Some wonder how can this be –  
Such strange gloom, yet so lovely?  
So very kind yet so stark?

Poplar honey! Dark and Sweet!  
Poplar honey! A Rich Treat!  
Poplar Honey! Oh so sweet!

It's a heart so full of good,  
Sometimes happy as a lark,  
Yet somehow still stays so dark.  
It doesn't act quite like it should.

It's a heart that's so complex,  
With flavor so rich and deep –  
Full of secrets it will keep  
Until such time as it selects.

Poplar honey! Dark and Sweet!  
Poplar honey! A Rich Treat!  
Poplar Honey! Oh so sweet!

Sticky sweet and sure to cling –  
The kind of heart that I would keep,  
With its mysteries dark and deep.  
Could there be a sweeter thing?

Poplar honey! Dark and Sweet!  
Poplar honey! A Rich Treat!  
Poplar Honey! Oh so sweet!

# Poplar & Lin

I pause here on the edge,  
Looking over love's ledge.  
There's a choice I must make –  
Choose which plunge to take.

Dark honey is so sweet,  
The light is sweeter still.  
Though the light is so sweet,  
The dark is richer still.  
Choosing one is no treat –  
Which to take? Rich or sweet?

To live I need honey.  
One jar seems so sunny –  
The dark has such flavor –  
Either I could savor.

Dark honey is so sweet,  
The light is sweeter still.  
Though the light is so sweet,  
The dark is richer still.  
Choosing one is no treat –  
Which to take? Rich or sweet?

I know I must choose one –  
Now I'm under the gun,  
And still I just don't know  
With which one I should go.

Dark honey is so sweet,  
The light is sweeter still.  
Though the light is so sweet,  
The dark is richer still.  
Choosing one is no treat –  
Which to take? Rich or sweet?

To jump in, sticky-sweet,  
Nothing could ever beat.  
But which love to fall in –  
If I choose wrong, what then?

Dark honey is so sweet,  
The light is sweeter still.  
Though the light is so sweet,  
The dark is richer still.  
Choosing one is no treat –  
Which to take? Rich or sweet?

## Storms

Pour! Rain pour!  
Wash away my worries,  
Sooth away the Furies.  
Pour!

Flash! Lightning flash!  
Flash so bright in the night –  
So bright – my sense excite.  
Flash!

Blow! Wind blow!  
Blow my cares away.  
Blow and I'll go that way.  
Blow!

Storm! Now storm!  
Thrill me both day and night.  
Fill me full of delight.  
Storm!

# The Haunted Place

I haunted this place  
So long, long ago.  
Now I ask myself  
Where did the time go?  
Memories haunt it now.  
Coming here again  
I feel caught between  
What is and was then.

Haunting this place feels so strange,  
Like time and space might rearrange.  
Who I am now? Who I was then?  
I feel like I've lost track of when.

The ghosts haunt this place through and through –  
Ghosts of things that I would do –  
Ghosts of the people I once knew –  
Ghosts of the things I thought were true –  
Ghosts of images my mind drew.

I once came here most every day  
But now the years have slipped away.  
Now my old haunt seems strange to me –  
I'm not the one I use to be.

The ghosts haunt this place through and through –  
Ghosts of things that I would do –  
Ghosts of the people I once knew –  
Ghosts of the things I thought were true –  
Ghosts of images my mind drew.

It's someone else's memory –  
From someone else who became me.  
It's here that I meet my own ghost,  
And that's what's haunting me the most.

I haunted this place  
So long, long ago.  
Now I ask myself  
Where did the time go?  
Memories haunt it now.  
Coming here again  
I feel caught between  
What is and was then.

## Cut My Heart Out

Come on! Come on! And cut my heart out!

I'm so lonely, so alone,  
So please just cut my heart out.  
So sad to the very bone,  
Oh please just cut my heart out.

Come on! Come on! And cut my heart out!  
Come on! Come on! And cut my heart out!

Children cut hearts for their friends  
On valentine's loves all about.  
But my hurting never ends;  
Oh, won't someone cute *my* heart out.

Come on! Come on! And cut my heart out!  
Come on! Come on! And cut my heart out!

Won't someone just take my heart  
And give me her own in return?  
Let me be loved or life part.  
For love alone does my heart yearn.

Come on! Come on! And cut my heart out!  
— Just cut my heart out.

# The Good Tree

It starts off small as you can see –  
A simple smile from you to me  
Is the seed that plants the tree.

And if the soil is just right  
Then it will grow both day and night,  
And it will grow to awesome might.

The good tree knows no evil,  
To have it in your life's a thrill.  
Be on your side it always will,  
A tree so kind and full of zeal,  
Never seeking its own will.  
Sheltering you from the chill,  
Enduring anything you feel,  
It's a tree you cannot kill.

Give it attention, help it grow –  
Its never enough just to sew –  
And over time its fruit will show.

I want to share this tree with you.  
There's nothing better we could do.  
This tree's the only thing that's true.

The good tree knows no evil,  
To have it in your life's a thrill.  
Be on your side it always will,  
A tree so kind and full of zeal,  
Never seeking its own will.  
Sheltering you from the chill,  
Enduring anything you feel,  
It's a tree you cannot kill.

*Prayers &  
Meditations*

# The Crown of Justice

Blessed be the blameless  
Whose ways are shameless,  
Treading by God's teaching,  
His covenant not breaching.

Blessed be the obedient  
Following the message sent,  
With all their hearts seeking Him,  
For whom good is life, not whim.

Never doing any wrong,  
Walking with God all along,  
We thank you for your wisdom  
Though it seems folly to some.

In practicing your precepts,  
The most glorious concepts,  
We wish to be good workers  
Doing good at all hours!

Transcending the todays trials,  
Baring them all with smiles,  
We'd know no shame in the end,  
For all time do you transcend!

We will go home to rewards,  
The joy that your love affords.  
Help us praise you from the heart,  
And from us do not depart!



# The House of Wise Mercy

Prepare me that I may be pure,  
Following your true will for sure.  
You are highly sought by my heart  
To know you well, not just in part.  
Help me follow your high commands,  
For that is what my heart demands.  
For you are hidden in my heart –  
From your teaching I will not part.  
May I wisely weigh your wise words  
(Which have more beauty than all bird),  
Safely standing upright and strong,  
Your secrets keep me from all wrong.  
Meditating on your mercy  
Your timeless teachings may I see,  
And all the wonders of your ways  
And follow them for all my days!  
May I delight in your decrees,  
For it is you I wish to please,  
And not neglect your wondrous ways –  
Following them for all my days!

# To Understand Justice

Will me well wonderful Lord, mercy give,  
Unite me with love that I may thus live!  
Your most wonderful words I will obey,  
Open my eyes to your teaching today.

I know that this world in which I now roam  
Has never been nor will be my true home,  
But at completion to you I'll return –  
Do not hide your teachings, for which I yearn!

May my deeds praise you as a sacred song,  
And your sacred statutes keep me from wrong.  
To follow your teachings I will attempt,  
Please remove me from all scorn and contempt.  
In your wondrous ways I find great delight,  
For through them I will keep you in my sight!

# The Door to Beautiful Wisdom

Descending, I diminished in the dust –  
I hate such hardship but have it I must.  
So I learned from it all and am here still  
For to preserve was your divine will.

Directing life, you opened a door for me  
So that your teaching I could come to see.  
Discerning your will from my desires  
May I pass safely through all life's fires.

My soul is so sore from sustained sorrow  
But you will guide me on to tomorrow,  
That on your marvels I may meditate,  
For to you will I surrender my fate.

Now great success is certainly assured  
And by you my sorrows will all be cured –  
Your sacred light illuminates my soul  
And to know your wisdom was my true goal.  
Suppress all my evil and deceitful ways  
That I may honor my God all my days.  
Treading the path of truth will be my part,  
And to take your teachings all to heart.

Your beautiful ways gave me a new start.  
Your love has opened door to free my heart.

# A Window on Holy Wisdom

Lord God, teach me your holy ways  
May I follow them all my days.  
Show the wisdom of your teachings  
That I may obey in all things.

Put your commands within my sight  
To follow them is my delight.  
Do away with disgrace and dread  
That by your teachings I'll be led.

Lead me away from selfishness  
And dress me not with worthlessness,  
I pray that you will rightly bless  
Me with your holy righteousness.

Your teachings are so very good,  
Fulfill your promise as you should –  
My soul so longs your will to see  
That rightly revered you may be!

# The Triumph of Holy Wisdom

Send to me your unfailing love  
To descend on my from above,  
Saving me as you said you would  
To speak your statutes as I should.

I will answer he who taunts me  
Trusting in the great truth I see.  
Take none of your truth from my heart,  
Don't take even the smallest part.

I will triumph in your teaching  
And all the hope that it will bring  
And will find freedom forever,  
Knowing you will leave me never!

Bring Heaven's will to human hearts  
That be given all new starts,  
Understanding peaceful power,  
That your love grow like a flower.

For your ways bring such great delight,  
They triumph over any fight!

# The Wise Sword of Justice

Faithful always, as a good friend,  
You've given me hope for a good end!  
My comfort now in suffering this  
Is in the truth of your promise!  
Your mighty sword protects my life  
As a good man defends his wife.  
And just like they we two are one,  
Though I do wrong and you do none!  
And in your ancient teachings, Lord,  
I find both comfort and a sword  
With which I know you'll sure smite  
Those who in evil do delight.  
And with this sword you'll rescue me –  
Your teachings surely set me free!

# A Wall of Beautiful Mercy

My Lord, you are my true treasure,  
Obeying you is my great pleasure!  
I seek your face deep in my heart.  
From your house I must not part.  
The grace you promise I will see  
As you will hold and protect me;  
For in the household of my Lord  
May all good people be restored,  
For any evil he can ward.  
Therefore your way I will turn toward,  
And all who love you I'll hold dear  
No matter if they're far or near.  
Your loving power's everywhere,  
Teach me your ways – I beg you share!

# The Beautiful Wisdom

Lord, treat your servant well this day  
According to your awesome way.  
May I be consistently wise,  
Full of your truth and not with lies.  
I'll tend the fires of my heart,  
An offering on my own part.  
I know that once I went astray  
But now your words I will obey.  
I thank you for these tragedies  
That helped to teach me your decrees.  
Your teaching are worth more to me  
Than any amount of money.

# A Beautiful Victory at Hand

I was made and formed by your hands –  
Let me understand your commands!  
May those who love you turn to me  
That I may lead them most wisely  
With prudence that you give to me!  
With unfailing love comfort me,  
For this is what you promised me.  
To you I will now myself give  
So send your love that I may live.  
In your teachings may I delight  
That I receive no shame nor slight.

# Victory of the Merciful Fist

My soul seeks salvation on this day,  
Having put all hope in your way.  
I ask, "When will you comfort me" –  
I won't forget your least decree.  
From persecution set me free  
And punish those who have harmed me!  
So put an end now to this strife  
And with your love please save my life!  
From misery I will now rise  
Now with good fortune from the skies!

# A Foundation in Glory

Lord your love is everlasting,  
It stands firm, always sustaining,  
With faithfulness that has no end.  
Its on you that all things depend.  
Your teachings endure to this day  
For all things serve you in their way.  
I would have perished from my plight  
Had your ways not been my delight,  
For by them you preserved my life  
From all the trouble and the strife.  
Save me, for I belong to you  
And its your will I seek to do.  
Other perfection I've not found,  
But your perfection has no bound!



## Water of Life – Glorious Victory

My mind does not wander from meditating,  
When I look within and find your teaching.  
Wisdom gushes forth like a mountain spring  
Because I so greatly love your teaching!  
I have surpassed all my teachers insight,  
So now the ignorant seek me if they might.  
To take care of myself I cultivate  
Your wise virtues on which I meditate,  
For sincerely loving all your orders  
Lets me understand more than my elders!  
I finds your words much sweeter than honey  
And more valuable than any money.  
With understanding your teaching fills me  
That I may follow the path that's friendly.

## A Beautiful Prop for Glory

May I see the truth as it is,  
I ask that you help me with this  
That I may guard against evil  
And I my destiny I fulfill.  
Let me put things their own place  
So that I may avoid disgrace.  
May me tentative glory bloom  
And not collapse into doom!  
I'll see the wicked as they are  
So that from them I may stay far.  
And may I manage things with skill  
That I be healed to do your will!

# A Beautiful Sight

The sun must set, I know its true,  
That it may rise to shine anew.  
I seek to do what's good and just,  
So do not leave me in the dust!  
Now my eyes fail in seeking you  
And I don't know what I should do.  
Because I hate the wicked path  
I find I face the whole worlds wrath!  
Now I feel silenced and oppressed,  
But know one day I will be blessed.  
For though it seems that all is lost,  
I know that this is just the cost  
For a reward that will not end,  
All will be new, my life will mend!  
For though it now seems a steep price  
I'll be repaid much more than thrice!

# Glorious Justice

Your light flashes across the sky,  
As now your spirit draws me night.  
Bright hope illuminates my life  
Showing me an end to all strife,  
For your judgments are always fair  
That I have no fair for my share!  
For with your teachings I'm in tune –  
My zeal burns like the sun at noon!

# Understanding Mercy

Now I call out with all my heart  
In hopes that you will play your part.  
I'm vigilant through this dark night,  
Knowing hidden foes wish to fight.  
I know the schemers are now near,  
But still I find no cause to fear  
For all this you have prepared me  
And now you'll help me physically!  
Your spirit now will nourish me!  
Through me your power all will see!  
I will nourish them with your light;  
Seeing your might they will do right.

# A Beautiful Foundation

Deliver me from my suffering  
For now its time my heart should sing!  
Though now I am the only one  
All will believe it when its done.  
All variants of joy will abound  
As the warmth of your love is found.  
Diverse people gather as one  
In your compassion like the sun.  
Only the wicked are kept out,  
And evil's not what I'm about.  
I pray your love will shine on me  
With good fortune and great bounty!

# Understanding Wisdom

My journey does not reach an end,  
For every end I know will send  
Me to travel further on my way,  
A new beginning every day.  
And so I grow just like the trees  
And rise to heaven on a breeze.  
Each day further I will ascend  
Always rising higher with no end.  
And when a new place I do reach  
I know it has new things to teach.  
I travel on with dignity  
Getting ever closer to thee.

# A Foundation for the Kingdom

I cry out to you and your hear  
You leave me with nothing to fear.  
You help me always with you hand –  
On that foundation will I stand!

*The Epic of*  
*Melellenna*

In a world now unknown, long ago  
In an age now no more, that none know  
There was a warrior and a mage  
With the wealth of wisdom of a sage.  
Her heroics no limit knew  
And now its time she had her due.  
In her elven home she grew bored  
And so she left with bow and sword  
To explore any other land -  
And to those in need lend a hand.  
A playful spirit seeking fun  
And willing to help anyone  
Off to fill her curious mind  
She left her peaceful home behind.  
To keep an eye on her reckless ways  
Her cousin also left the faes.  
So begins Melellenna's tale  
And that of cousin Xerad as well.  
By ship they sailed across the sea  
To see the lands of humanity;  
To a kingdom of friendly men  
(Whose hearts and minds she would soon win)  
And in a town called Goodholm stayed  
While she her future options weighed.  
And there she met Zenna the thief  
Of whose goals gaining wealth was chief.  
He had a map to where gold lay  
But still his fears kept him at bay,  
While seeking help he had soon learned  
Of the elves so to them he turned.  
He'd be happy to show the way  
And split the treasure as their pay  
If they'd keep safe from harm,  
Whether by sword of magic charm.  
To Melellenna this was good  
So when he asked she said she would,  
For now she needed to get out  
To some new place, to look about.  
And so off went Melellenna,  
Along with Xerad and Zenna,

Out from Goodholm, past farms and fields  
 Carrying with them their swords and shields.  
 Into a woodland full of peace  
 Where all worries one can release.  
 The leaves there laying on the ground  
 With the ancient trees all around,  
 Singing birds were the only sound  
 With natures beauty all around,  
 And gentle hills of lovely green  
 By the valley streams serene.  
 Up through the foothills the path wound  
 On their way to the higher ground,  
 And as they rose the woods gave way  
 To where the alpine meadows lay -  
 Where grass and shrubs could be seen  
 With gorgeous gorges in between.  
 Thistle and heather could be found  
 In alpine meadows all around,  
 And above them grand peaks of snow  
 Looked down on the valleys below.  
 The map then led them to a cave  
 Which Xerad entered, being brave -  
 And he went ahead on that day  
 To keep his cousin from harms way.  
 But this cave was a monsters lair -  
 They didn't know 'til they saw her hair  
 Of serpents twining in the air  
 And it was too late to beware!  
 Seeing the gorgons gruesome glare  
 Xerad turned to stone then and there!  
 Out from the cave the others flew  
 And began plotting what to do.  
 Then Zenna said, "*Now we must flee  
 To get far from here most quickly  
 Before the monster kills us all  
 For now I fear we all will fall  
 To this hag who no one could kill!*"  
 But Melellenna had strong will  
 And she would not leave Xerad there  
 So then and there she did declare,

*“We will not leave Xerad behind -  
 A way to slay this fiend I'll find  
 For with magic I have some skill  
 Which will make this an easy kill.  
 Fire will burn off her ugly face -  
 I'll take my cousin from this place.  
 With dragon's blood I made this charm,  
 Its sure to do our foe great harm,  
 With fire opal also in its clay.  
 This will that gorgon's last day.”*  
 She pulled out a coin of red clay,  
 Beginning magic words to say.  
 The coin's symbols began to glow  
 As wisps of smoke began to show.  
 Then it burst into blazing flame  
 As more power into it came.  
 Then Melellenna tossed it in  
 So it burst in the monsters den  
 Filling with fire the dismal cave  
 So nothing could the gorgon save,  
 For from the cave's mouth flames did roll  
 Sending away the gorgon's soul.  
 Then they did all go back inside  
 Where once the monster did reside  
 To find the gorgon now but bone  
 But Xerad safe since made of stone.  
 Zenna quickly searched for the gold  
 Of which the map they followed told  
 But couldn't take that for which they came  
 For it had melted in the flame  
 To a lump too heavy to lift  
 Leaving no coins through which to sift,  
 Then Melellenna said to him,  
*“Now I find things far too grim  
 To worry that our profit's gone -  
 From greedy thoughts we must move on!  
 We must move Xerad out from here  
 For I hold my cousin's life dear.  
 I've heard of a wizard named Heinrich  
 Who for a price will heal the sick,*



*And that he wields such great power  
If we only reach his tower  
Xerad might be again himself -  
No more a statue but an elf."*

Xerad was carried carefully,  
In hope that he could be set free  
From they stony form he had  
To once again become Xerad,  
Down to a river far below  
That from the map they both did know.  
And built a raft so they can float  
To Heinrich's tower so remote.  
The river flowed slow, deep, and black  
Carrying them on their way back,  
Giving them both time to relax  
Away from danger and attacks.  
Drifting along through sun and shade  
With gentle ripples and trees that swayed  
In the cool, peaceful summer's breeze  
They floated along with gentle easy,  
And hearing the birds sweetly sing  
To their troubled minds peace did bring.  
And morning glory did there grow  
Along the shore where they did go,  
Where flowers closed each day by noon  
But opened up beneath the moon  
Blossoming in purple and white,  
Making the shore a lovely sight.  
Beneath the trees, deep in the shade  
Small flowers grew through leaves that laid  
Like a carpet across the ground  
Where many logs and limbs were found.  
So they floated on peacefully  
Until the tower they did see  
Rising up from the woods below  
Like an obelisk set for show -  
Like a gray pillar off ahead -  
Where so many it had been said  
Had been healed of curse or disease -  
Rising so high above the trees.

At the tower they came to shore  
 And quickly went up to the door  
 Of where the wizard did reside  
 With hopes they would be let inside.  
 Melellenna then knocked so hard  
 The sound echoed through the yard.  
 Several minutes passed until when  
 Heinrich came and let them all in.  
 Then to them both the wizard said,  
*"You just got me out of my bed,  
 But I'm glad to help – for a fee  
 I can even make the blind see!"*  
 So Melellenna answered him,  
*"I'm afraid our hopes are still dim.  
 The help I need is not for me,  
 It's my cousin you need to see.  
 His problem really is quite grave  
 But he's the one that you must save;  
 It seems he has been turned to stone –  
 We want him back as flesh and bone."*  
 So Heinrich then replied to her,  
*"Yes, I can turn him back I'm sure  
 But what you ask is no small thing –  
 What sort of payment do you have?"*  
 Seeing things were growing quite grim  
 Melellenna then said to him,  
*"I'm afraid we've no gold to give,  
 But I need for Xerad to live  
 So I'll find a way to pay you  
 If this wonder you will just do."*  
 Then Heinrich offered her a deal,  
*"For your trouble I truly feel,  
 So I'll change him back for a boon –  
 Bring me The Medallion of the Moon  
 From on the Island of the Lost  
 And I'll consider that the cost.  
 I'll keep your cousin safe right here  
 So for his safety have no fear  
 And turn him back into an elf  
 When I have that charm for myself."*

So Melellenna did declare,  
*"I find your deal to be quite fair.  
Zenna will come along with me,  
He got us in this mess you see,  
So if he wants to avoid strife  
He'll come along to save his life."*  
So off they went to find the ship  
That they would need to make the trip.  
So off they set to Port Royal,  
The kingdom's very capitol  
Hoping there they;d find a good boat  
On which to the isle they could float.  
Roads from the tower through the wood  
Where many younger trees now stood  
Let them out to green rolling hills  
Dotted with farmsteads and windmill.  
Where peasants worked in sunlit field  
For the treasure mother earth yields.  
Breezes blew through ripening grain,  
The gift of both the sun and rain,  
While cabbages grew in neat rows  
Produced by farmers' toil and hoes.  
And sweet peas bloomed upon their poles  
With beauty for observant souls.  
So beneath skies of azure hue  
Without a cloud to break the blue  
The road wound on through scenery vast  
Until they reached its end at last –  
The walls of the city they sought,  
Hoping ships passage might be bought,  
Where good king Roland's palace lay  
With the shipyard beside the bay.  
And so they went on through the gate  
Within the wall so very great  
And to the harbor by the sea  
Where all the ships would surely be.  
So they began to ask around  
Hoping a way would there be found  
To reach the Island of the Lost  
And get back here at any cost.

With every lead that they did chase  
 They found the sailors feared that place,  
 As everyone they met did swear  
 No one ever returned from there –  
 That's how the island got its name,  
 For loss of men it had great fame.  
 And for passage they had to pay  
 And had no money anyway!  
 Then the king came, with royal guard,  
 That day to visit the shipyard,  
 To inspect his own royal fleet,  
 And Melellenna he did meet.  
 He wanted to meet her himself  
 For he had never seen an elf.  
 So she told him every detail  
 Of how her quest seemed doomed to fail –  
 Where and why she needed to sail  
 And how her plans seemed to derail.  
 And so king Roland then did say,  
*“Come on with me and don't delay!  
 I seem to have a problem too,  
 If you'll help me I'll sure help you.  
 An ogre skilled in sorcery  
 Has raised an army against me;  
 I know that if this fiend is slain  
 His army will not long remain.  
 Far to the north his fortress lies  
 And if you snuck in by surprise  
 You could prevent the coming war  
 And save the lives of many more  
 Who otherwise would surely die.  
 The task is great but if you try  
 A ship to you I'll surely give  
 So that your cousin may thus live.  
 If on the island you survive  
 And from there you return alive  
 Then this quest will belong to you  
 And you'll have to follow it through.  
 Come join me for my evening meal,  
 The tell me if we have a deal.”*

On delicacies they did dine,  
On cakes and lobster and fine wine,  
And Melellenna then agreed  
To take the quest and do the deed,  
But Xerad's help she said she'd need,  
So only after he was freed  
From the form of stone he now had.  
And with all this Roland was glad.  
They stayed the night once they were fed  
So Zenna could rest in a bed  
While Melellenna spent the night  
Studying spells, maps, ways to fight  
And the ancient lore of that land  
And pondered these all as she planned  
In the morning with weather fair  
They boarded the ship out from there.  
And so they boarded the great ship  
And so began their ocean trip.  
The sailors told them of the place  
Whose strange dangers they feared to face –  
How they would avoid it at all cost,  
The distant Island of the Lost  
For those who came to see the shore  
Were always lost forevermore,  
Their ships would crash upon the sand  
And no one ever left that land.  
The place was cursed they all did say,  
The ship would have to stay away –  
When its outline came into view  
They'd drop their anchors in the blue.  
And so they sailed upon the sea  
Beneath skies as blue as could be.  
Watching the coastline shrink and fade  
'Til no glimpse of it could be made,  
Leaving nothing but endless blue  
Beyond the ship and its own crew,  
As strong winds pushed them on their way  
Steadily through the night and day  
Until the crows nest gave the news  
Of the far off and distant views –

A hazy outline could be seen  
Of distant peaks that looked serene.  
This was the feared Isle of the Lost  
They would avoid at any cost  
So they drop the anchors right there  
And Melellenna did prepare  
To leave the ship and row a boat  
On to that shore still so remote,  
For now with Zenna she would row  
And on to the shore they would go.  
And so they rowed all through the day  
Until on the beach the boat lay.  
Then they got to look around  
And see what sort of land they'd found.  
There great rocks jutted from the sand  
Where they came ashore in this land.  
And the jungle lay up ahead,  
So dark and deep and full of dread.  
What creatures lurked there none did know,  
But that is where they had to go.  
As they drew closer to the wood  
They saw a figure that there stood –  
The strongest woman they had see  
Came forth to them out of the green  
Dressed in leather and six feet tall,  
Brown hair around her hips did fall,  
Sword at her waist and spear in hand –  
She was a native of this land.  
The woman stepped forth and she said,  
*“Come, my village is up ahead.  
I see that we are not the same,  
Tell me about from where you came –  
I've seen eyes like mud or the skies  
But I've never seen purple eyes  
Or ears like yours that end in points  
Or a warrior with such fine points,  
And you're so short, yet I can see  
In battle you could match with me.  
I'd really like to know your name –  
I'm Allanis of fighting fame.”*

Zenna spoke up and said to she,  
*"We came here from across the sea...."*  
 Allanis then snapped back at him,  
*"Stay in your place and loose the grin!*  
*It was to your master I spoke*  
*And you treat it as if a joke!"*  
 Then to Melellenna she said,  
*"Are both of you out of your head?*  
*I find your man so unruly*  
*Yet you choose to let him run free?*  
*I hope some day to own a man*  
*But teach him his place I do plan!"*  
 Then Melellenna said to her,  
*"He is in his place, I am sure,*  
*For in the place from which I come,*  
*Though not the land that we've sailed from,*  
*All are held equal – everyone –*  
*And no one there owns anyone,*  
*We treat both sexes just the same*  
*And anyone can rise to fame.*  
*Most humans call it anarchy*  
*But in my homeland all are free!"*  
 Allanis then replied to them,  
*"Then I will help both you him,*  
*Your ways seem very strange to me*  
*And I don't see how this could be,*  
*But I'd so love much more to hear*  
*Of places far away from here."*  
 So Melellenna then began,  
*"Well Zenna's the name of this man,*  
*And Melellenna is my name*  
*And our homelands are not the same –*  
*In his homeland men run the show*  
*Yet women may still come and go*  
*As they please for they are free*  
*And most men treat them quite kindly."*  
 Allanis thus replied to her,  
*"Both your ways seem quite strange to me.*  
*Here you both must stay together*  
*And never leave one another*  
*For Zenna will not be safe here*

*Unless you always keep him near.  
 Come on, the village is this way  
 And with me I'll let you both stay."*  
 So they followed her through the wood  
 Until in the village they stood.  
 As Melellenna looked around  
 There was a question she did sound,  
*"I hope this doesn't sound too dumb –  
 Where do the men you keep come from?"*  
 So Allanis to them explained,  
*"They wash up on the shore untrained.  
 First we hear music most lovely,  
 More beautiful than there should be –  
 All we can do is listen then –  
 And afterwards we find the men.  
 They just wash up on to the shore  
 With no idea what they are for;  
 We have to train most all of them  
 Before a man's work they begin –  
 They do not want to cook or clean,  
 And on sewing they don't come keen.  
 We must confine them to the home  
 For they run off if left to roam.  
 They are a gift of the waters  
 And help us to make our daughters –  
 They can't be let to get away  
 Or our race would be gone one day.  
 But sometimes the child is a man  
 And for that, too, we have a plan;  
 We leave the baby in the wood  
 To be eaten by what beast should.  
 To the gods its a sacrifice  
 One that always seems to suffice,  
 For our fortunes are always fair –  
 To challenge this no one would dare.  
 In this way do our people thrive,  
 This is the way that we survive."*  
 The Melellenna shook her head  
 Hearing all that had just been said,  
*"Your ways do truly disgust me –  
 How could you kill your own baby?*



*But I sure know what must happen  
To bring upon your shore these men.  
There must be a siren near here  
That sings her song when ships are near.  
Though this for now will be our stop,  
I see out there a mountain top  
And I see a ruin is up there –  
I'm sure that is the siren's lair –  
And in that ancient temple I see  
That which we seek must also be,  
But to get it safely away  
I'll have to find a trick to play!  
This is a thing we can't just fight  
So we'll just stay here for the night.  
Overcome this I surely can;  
In the morning I'll have a plan.”  
With Allanis they spent night  
And Melellenna sought insight  
On how to beat one who can sing  
And by that alone your doom bring.  
By the coming of morning light  
She knew how to win with no fight.  
She knew the siren had to eat  
And this would lead to her defeat.  
A potion that would make her sleep  
Would allow them to safely creep  
In and out without any harm  
And while she slept they'd find the charm.  
But first she'd have to find the herbs  
That all wakefulness surely curbs.  
So in the jungle they did seek  
The plants of which she did thus speak.  
And as they searched she did explain  
To just attack would be in vain –  
The siren's song could stop them all  
As under its spell they would fall.  
But an offering of drugged wine  
Would knock her out as she would dine.  
Then Melellenna made the claim  
That her singing deserved such fame,  
As good as any siren's song*

She could sing just as sweet and long,  
 And feeling full of cheer, and proud,  
 She sang out these words, bold and loud:  
*"As the leaves drift off from the trees  
 And float upon the Summer's Breeze  
 I can go where ever I please -  
 Over mountains and the seas  
 And even through jungles like these -  
 Across the world, through all degrees.  
 I can do whatever I please  
 And all the world is mine to seize  
 For I can go were er' I please  
 As free as leaves upon the breeze!"*  
 And as aloud these lines she sang  
 All through the jungle her voice rang,  
 So all the creatures heard her sing  
 And this was surely no good thing.  
 For in the jungle there did live  
 A beast who would no quarter give.  
 With poison fangs and poison tail,  
 Nothing about this beast was frail.  
 Its snakelike neck twenty feet long,  
 It heard dinner and not a song!  
 Its scaly hide was strong as steel  
 Making the danger all more real.  
 So soon it burst out from the leaves,  
 A threat that everyone perceives  
 Allanis gasped, *"The kalkion!  
 We've got to run before we're gone!  
 This is no time to show you're brave,  
 Our only hope is in a cave.  
 The creature's poison is so great  
 I single bite will seal your fate!"*  
 And so they ran and it gave chase,  
 In the most desperate kind of race,  
 Up to a hill where was a cave  
 That they all hoped their lives would save,  
 And then they darted right inside  
 Hoping they'd found a place to hide.  
 The opening was much too small  
 For such a beast to ever crawl

Into the cave, but still its head  
Snaked inside, hoping to be fed.  
And so they all ran further back  
To avoid the monster's attack.  
But then a scream came from the dark,  
A battle cry so very stark,  
And then emerged out of the gloom  
A beastly hoard to seal their doom.  
Misshapen forms with skin of green,  
As hideous as could be seen –  
A goblin hoard called this cave home  
(Except at night, when they would roam)  
And in their hearts they had such hate  
Of human kind they could not wait  
To kill anyone that they could  
And now it seemed they surely would  
Kill the heroes right where they stood –  
For they hate anything that's good.  
But Melellenna saw a way  
That they could escape death that day.  
*“Allanis, Zenna, fight them back,  
And I'll the kalkion attack,”*  
Melellenna called to her friends,  
*“For if you don't, we've met our ends!”*  
She notched an arrow on her bow  
And fired it right at her foe,  
Shooting the beast right through the eye.  
She shot the other, then drew nigh.  
Moving softly, yet with great speed,  
She drew the circle that she'd need,  
There in the dirt upon the floor  
Right at the edge of the cave's door.  
Then threw a stone before the beast,  
Which could no longer see the least.  
The creature struck its very best  
So its fangs plunged into its chest,  
(For it now had no way to know  
It was just a noise, not a foe)  
So its venom filled its own veins,  
Filling the kalkion with pains.

So the creature drew its last breath  
 Having brought about its own death.  
 Then to her friends the hero said,  
*"Look, the kalkion is now dead,  
 So join me in the circle here  
 For our deliverance is near."*  
 So then Allanis quickly came  
 And Zenna surely did the same.  
 Then Melellenna spoke the phrase  
 That set the circle there ablaze.  
 The goblins could not follow then  
 After the fire did begin.  
 Climbing over the kalkion  
 The heroes escaped and went on.  
 Then they gathered the other herbs  
 For the drink that wakefulness curbs,  
 And when the gathering was done  
 Melellenna brewed the potion.  
 Then through the jungle they did go  
 To meet their unsuspecting foe,  
 Up to the cliff that they must climb,  
 Then up they went in splendid time  
 To the top where the temple lay  
 Where the siren stayed night and day.  
 Now Melellenna had a plan  
 With Zenna as the chosen man.  
*"We'll draw the siren from that place  
 To eat the food that we did lace  
 With the potion that I have made  
 So we may sneak where she's forbade."*  
 So Zenna took the offering –  
 A sneaky gift he sure did bring!  
 Then they called, *"Great siren, come see  
 The tasty gift we've left for thee!"*  
 Then as they hid she quickly came  
 Thinking amazons had left game –  
 But finding meat and bread and wine  
 She was all the more pleased to dine  
 So soon the siren was asleep,  
 And in her temple they did creep

And rummaging through it they soon  
Had the Medallion of the Moon –  
Right in the hands of those brave souls  
Who were bound to have all there goals.  
With gold and gems they all did creep,  
While there adversary did sleep  
And climbed back down the way they came  
Knowing now they had made their name  
And were on their way to great fame  
For none had ever done the same.  
Crossing the jungle they went back  
To the village and had a snack.  
They then prepared to take the trip  
Across the water to the ship  
That waited for them on the sea  
To take them where Zenna was free.  
Then Allanis said she would go  
That more of the world she could know,  
And Melellenna did agree  
And took her back across the sea.  
They rowed their boat out to the ship  
And then embarked upon the trip  
Back to the lands across the sea  
Where now they all wanted to be.  
The sea was blue, the sky was too  
And a calm but steady breeze blew  
Them on their way, both night and day  
And all was restful on the way  
Until Port Royal they did reach  
With all its lovely, sandy beach,  
Where at they all did safely stand  
With all their feet back on the land.  
Back at the palace Roland said,  
*“I’m glad your back and are not dead –  
Not its your turn to help out me,  
And take the quest we did agree  
That you would take to save us all  
And you must hurry, its almost Fall.”*  
So Melellenna said to him,  
*“I understand that things are grim,*

*I'll start the quest this very day  
And get my cousin on the way.  
Xerad will be of benefit,  
Both quick of sword and quick of wit!"*  
So they departed on their way  
Leaving Port Royal on that day.  
Passing the fields of golden grain  
That would produce the farmer's gain,  
So that their journey now did seem  
Like a quiet and most peaceful dream.  
And then they passed back through Goodholm,  
Where many friendly people roam  
From place to place and often say  
That everyday is a good day.  
And then through farmland once again  
So that they could not help but grin  
As everything there seemed just right  
And everywhere a lovely sight.  
Then through the woodland they did go  
(Never seeing a single foe),  
Until the tower they did reach  
Where the wizard they would beseech.  
Melellenna knocked on the door  
Just as she'd done the time before.  
Then Heinrich came and let them in  
And greeted them all once again.  
So Melellenna then did say,  
*"You'll restore my cousin this day,  
I have the medallion here with me,  
So now a cure I want to see!"*  
To him she gave the medallion  
And right away he put it on.  
Then Heinrich took some ancient earth,  
An egg from which a snake would birth,  
And a fresh wand from a green tree  
In which the life-sap would still be.  
He cracked the egg on Xerad's head  
And sprinkled on dirt as he said  
The incantation for the spell  
That would make the petrified well.

Then Xerad changed back into flesh  
And immediately he addressed  
Everyone he saw gathered there  
For he now had no idea where  
This strange place was that he could be,  
(For a statue has no memory),  
*"I remember the most horrid sight,  
Then everything goes black as night –  
Where is this place that I now stand,  
Who are they, to know I demand!"*  
He did not know he'd turned to stone,  
Lacking the life of flesh and bone!  
So Melelenna told the tale  
Of the isle where they did prevail,  
And how they did it all for him  
That his fate would not be so grim.  
Then Zenna said, *"This quest is done,  
And the king's quest we all should shun  
For if we take it we'll all die  
And now I see no reason why  
When he won't know if we don't go  
To die fighting this dire foe!"*  
But Melelenna countered him,  
*"I know the task ahead is grim  
But I gave my word so I will  
Do all I that can to fulfill  
The promise that I made to him,  
And won't abandon it on whim!  
And if the ogre conquers all –  
If to him this kingdom does fall –  
Where will you go? What will you do?  
These monsters are no friend to you!  
You'll become their meal or their slave,  
By coming its yourself you save!"*  
Then Zenna saw what he must do,  
And said, *"Alright, I'll come with you."*  
The four of them left on their way  
To slay their foe and save the day.  
Across a woodland of young trees  
Whose soft leaves rustled in the breeze,

Until they reached the deeper wood  
 Where there the ancient trees still stood,  
 Shrouding the land in such deep shade  
 That into night they seemed to fade.  
 Across this darkened land they went,  
 Where none other had left a print,  
 Until this forest so very deep  
 Gave way to mountains just as steep,  
 That extended to icy peaks  
 Over which no one ever sneaks.  
 And all around the mountains base  
 They struggled on to find a place  
 Where they could pass to lands beyond,  
 For of freezing they were not fond.  
 They searched until they found a pass  
 Full of dead trees and scattered grass,  
 An eerie place, so desolate  
 That fear welled up in every gut.  
 Still they entered as sun did set  
 For fear alone they would not let  
 Hold them back from so great a quest,  
 Besides, not every place is blessed!  
 But then they heard the mournful wail,  
 And saw the ghostly figure pale.  
 A ghastly hag of ghostly tones,  
 Whose cry sent shivers to their bones,  
 Rising above the trees ahead  
 Filled them with unearthly dread!  
 They turned and ran back to the wood,  
 Where all the ancient trees still stood.  
 They finally stopped and caught their breath,  
*"The woman we just saw was Death,*  
*So we have every right to dread,*  
*Her voice alone could strike us dead!*  
*We must be clever if are we*  
*To ever get past The Banshee,"*  
 Melellenna wisely explained,  
 And after some thought she proclaimed,  
*"If The Banshee thinks we are dead*  
*Then we'll have nothing more to dread.*



*This spirit I'm sure we can fool,  
She would not want to harm a ghoul  
So I'll disguise us as the dead  
Who hunger from the grave has led."*  
So Melellenna hunted game  
With shooting skills that brought her fame,  
And with some squirrels she came back  
And cooked a couple as a snack.  
The others she hung up to rot;  
That was the reason they were caught.  
Then all their cloths were cut and torn,  
Squirrels around their necks were worn  
To give them all the smell of death  
(Though most would gag with every breath),  
And smeared mud on their skin and hair  
As though a grave had been their lair.  
Thus disguised they walked through the pass  
And The Banshee did not harass  
Them in the least, in any way,  
For she saw corpses in decay.  
They shuffled to the other side,  
Where living things safely abide.  
And at a mountain stream serene  
They through off the rot and got clean.  
The bubbling brook beside them flowed  
So they followed it as a road  
That led them north beneath the trees  
Away from the frigid mountains' freeze.  
Lovely oaks clothed in bark and moss  
Which left the party at a loss  
Of words to describe the great calm  
Which for their fears became a balm.  
The tinkle of the bubbling stream,  
Where the stray rays of sun did gleam,  
Made the whole land seem like a dream  
In which no sadness it did seem  
Could ruin the carefree happiness  
With which any this land would bless.  
On they went through idyllic land  
With no sense of danger at hand,

Until they rounded a small hill  
 (As yet they saw no danger still)  
 Where face to face they found a band  
 Of centaurs with their swords in hand.  
*"You're trespassing upon our land,  
 For which a reason we demand –  
 Try to flee and you'll all be dead!"*  
 To the heroes one centaur said.  
 So Melellenna did explain,  
*"We mean no harm nor to remain.  
 For we are only passing through,  
 To the north we've a job to do.  
 A wicked ogre threatens all  
 But by my sword the fiend will fall –  
 He knows the ways of sorcery  
 But still he is no match for me –  
 If we don't stop him soon you see  
 He'll unleash a most vile army  
 Of wicked creatures on the land –  
 I hope our quest you'll understand."*  
 So then the centaur said to them,  
*"I understand your task is grim  
 And if you fail there'll be much grief,  
 So please follow us to our chief."*  
 So they followed them through the wood  
 To where the centaur village stood,  
 Of large stone huts all roofed with thatch  
 Beneath a sky too blue to match.  
 There the young horse boys and girls played  
 While centaur smiths fine weapons made.  
 And in its midst one great long house  
 Where lived the chief with his own spouse,  
 In which they went the chief to see  
 Greatly hoping that he would be  
 On their side and let them all go  
 For the centaurs were not their foe.  
 There the centaur chief said to them,  
*"I'd hear what reason or what whim  
 Brings the likes of you here to me –  
 Two-legged folk I rarely see!"*

So Melellenna said to him,  
*"Its a dire quest, and sure no whim  
That has brought us all here to you.  
In the north we've a job to do,  
An evil ogre I must slay  
Or the land his army will lay  
Completely to a total waste,  
So to his stronghold we'll make haste."*  
The chief nodded and scratched beard  
(For the ogre's army he feared),  
Until at last the chief replied,  
*"I'd be pleased if the ogre died.  
I'll take you to the goblins' land  
And hope your mission goes as planned,  
But none must know I helped you out –  
So you must take another route  
On your way home so won't lead  
His army here – this you must heed.  
If you return we will kill you  
So that our peace we may renew."*  
To this Melellenna agreed  
So that the heroes could be freed.  
So then the chieftain led them forth,  
With several centaurs to the north.  
Until they reached the goblins' land  
Ruled by an ogre's iron hand.  
And there the centaurs turned to say,  
*"We wish you well,"* then turned away.  
From there the woods turned dark as night,  
The setting for a nightmare's fright  
The gnarled and twisted trees seemed stark,  
As they journeyed on through the dark.  
Eerie calls of creatures unseen  
Echoed across the dismal scene.  
Where there could be hiding a foe  
There was no way for them to know.  
Past stagnant ponds onward they crept,  
And there the humans hardly slept  
For fear something would kill them all  
Beneath those ghastly trees so tall,

Until the fortress they did see  
In which their wicked foe should be.  
In a clearing, midst crumbling walls  
Sat his keep with its gloomy halls.  
Then Melellenna said to them,  
*"We can't just all charge in on him,  
For if we do then you must see  
He'll kill us with his sorcery.  
I'll engage him in a close fight  
To make useless his magic might,  
Then if he stops to cast a spell  
Before he's through my sword will fell  
The foul fiend, thus he must then fight  
With his own body's skill and might.  
I have a plan for what to do,  
And there's a job for each of you.  
Xerad and Allanis will guard  
The door, hiding out in the yard  
To slay him should he try to flee,  
Otherwise you'll just wait for me.  
Zenna will find the treasure hall  
And make some loud noise, so that all  
Will hear him there, then he must hide,  
So all the guards that there reside  
Will be sent to the treasury,  
Leaving our foe alone for me.  
I'll be unseen thanks to a spell  
Until its time my foe to fell."*  
Then giving the fort one last look  
From a pouch dust of quartz she took  
And sprinkled it over her head  
While ancient magic words she said,  
And then she disappeared from sight  
Saying to them, *"Its time to fight!"*  
Through a gap in the crumbling wall  
The heroes then crept, one and all.  
Xerad and Allanis did hide  
Behind rocks near the door outside.  
Through shadows Zenna went his way,  
And Mel went on to make her play;  
Straight down the corridor she went  
While Zenna found where he was sent.

In a great room filled with torch light  
All feasting in their master's sight  
Sat goblin guards with rusted swords –  
The elite of their beastly hoards.  
But when a noise rang through the hall  
They were ordered out – but not all.  
One goblin chief there still remained  
Who had the ogre's favor gained,  
So Melellenna struck him down,  
This jester-chief and ogre's clown,  
And doing so she broke her spell  
(As she knew she would very well).  
The ogre quickly grabbed his mace  
For now his new seen foe to face.  
With his mace he took a great swing  
But Melellenna dodged the ting.  
She took her swing but it was blocked,  
Then tried a thrust, as her foe mocked,  
But the ogre dodged to the side  
And then another swing he tried.  
Melellenna dodged to his flank,  
Then struck at him so her sword sank  
Into the ogre's left hamstring  
Slicing the tendons with her swing.  
As he fell back she struck him dead,  
Cleanly removing her foes head.  
She took the head, with gems and gold,  
A bounty for the heroes bold.  
Then with these things she snuck back out,  
Having a tale to tell about.  
Then with her friends she crept away  
Leaving the hordes none to obey –  
The goblins would then have no might  
For among themselves they would fight.  
Having defeated the foul beast  
The heroes left there to the east,  
For they all thought it would be best  
To follow the centaur's request.  
They exited the darkened wood  
And traveled onward, feeling good,

Through a forest of northern pine  
 Which the cold wind did there define.  
 Rounding the mountains' northern end  
 Back to the south their route did bend,  
 Until they reached some settled land  
 Full of fields that farmers had planned.  
 A village they found, with night near,  
 And Xerad said, "*We should rest here.*"  
 As they approached the people screamed  
 And ran inside – so strange it seemed!  
 "*There's no reason for such alarm,*  
*For we surely mean you no harm!*"  
 Melellenna called out to them.  
 Then they stopped as the light grew dim,  
 And one replied with great relief,  
 "*We thought you'd come to bring us grief.*  
*Many here have become a meal*  
*For a pack of ghouls, so we feel*  
*Quite frightened by the surprise sight*  
*Of strangers showing up near night*  
*With torn clothes and such messy hair –*  
*We thought a grave had been your lair,*  
*That you were ghouls here to eat us,*  
*And that's the reason for the fuss."*  
 So Melellenna said, "*Alright,*  
*If you let us stay here tonight*  
*I'll find a way these fiends to fight,*  
*For they're no match for elven might."*  
 So they gathered in the town hall,  
 Behind it's sturdy doors and wall.  
 There Zenna and Allanis slept  
 While Melellenna a watch kept.  
 At morning the villagers told  
 That the village was very old,  
 A forgotten place called Farlowe  
 Whose origin no one did know.  
 Hearing this Melellenna said,  
 "*A sword that brings death to the dead*  
*A legend says was left near here,*  
*A weapon that ghouls all should fear,*

*A magic weapon very fine,  
Left in an ancient mystic shrine.  
We can get there and back this day,  
And with it the ghouls I will slay!"*  
So the heroes left by the trail  
To the weapon that would prevail.  
And here the forest seemed serene,  
Red and gold leaves mixed with the green  
Were rustling in the autumn breeze  
As birds sang songs up in the trees.  
The trail wound 'round low, rolling hills,  
With the calm bliss nature instills,  
Until it came to a small stream  
On whose water sunlight did gleam,  
Running through a shallow ravine –  
With a bridge complete the scene.  
Zenna said, *"To cross I'm afraid,  
For this bridge does not look well made."*  
Melellenna laughed at his words,  
*"You want to fly across like birds?  
Or wade in the cold creek below?  
Those are the only ways I know  
For us to reach the other side!  
Or do you think a troll does hide  
Beneath the bridge waiting for you?  
I'll take a look, that's what I'll do!"*  
Having said this she jumped right in,  
Shaking her head with an imps grin.  
But landing she had a surprise,  
As she looked into a trolls eyes!  
He snarled at her, *"You're lunch my dear!"*  
But Melellenna had no fear,  
Saying, *"I meant no harm to you,  
But make a move and harm I'll do!"*  
The troll froze then in disbelief,  
*"I did not mean to cause you grief,  
I thought you had come to kill me,  
That's how it tends to be you see,  
But that if I snarled you would run –  
That's how it's been with everyone."*

*That's why I'm hiding here you see,  
 I thought you'd wanted to kill me!"*  
 The two climbed up from the ravine,  
 An elf-girl with a troll so green!  
 There stood the troll at nine feet tall,  
 A shocking sight he was to all  
 With tusks and horns a long beard,  
 A fearsome sight that many feared.  
 "My name is Agar," he then said,  
 Sounding sad and hanging his head,  
*"I live alone here in the wood  
 For I've never been understood,  
 Most people are afraid of me  
 And so my life is so lonely.  
 I hope you'll stay to play a game,  
 Just anything that you can name."*  
 Melellenna quickly replied,  
*"From us you do not have to hide.  
 I've got some cards so blitz we'll play."*  
 Hearing this Zenna had to say,  
*"With a monster I will not play!"*  
*"But what's a monster anyway?"*  
 Melellenna said back to him.  
 Zenna said, looking very grim,  
*"He's not human so he's a monster!"*  
 Melellenna said, "Are you sure?  
*I'm an elf, so a monster too? –  
 So maybe I should just kill you!"*  
 Drawing her sword she charged the thief,  
 So that he ran – in disbelief.  
 The she laughed and called to Zenna,  
*"I'm just your friend, Melellenna!"*  
 Then with Agar she played the game,  
 And told the troll of why she came.  
 So Agar replied, "Oh! My dear,  
*In this quest you have much to fear;  
 A wicked hag now guards the shrine,  
 And on your flesh she'd love to dine!  
 If you continue as you've planned  
 From you your life she will demand!"*



But Melellenna wasn't afraid,  
She'd keep the promise she had made.  
So on they went until they stood  
Before the shrine deep in the wood.  
Finding Zenna had disappeared,  
*"The coward's gone just as I feared,"*  
Signed Melellenna to Xerad,  
*"Just when I thought he wasn't that bad."*  
Having Xerad and Allanis  
She was still just as sure that this  
Task would be easy to fulfill,  
This hag would be easy to kill.  
Into the shrine they boldly strode  
Knowing it was a hags abode.  
There the hag stood before the sword,  
Hoping any heroes to ward.  
They saw the evil in her eye,  
And then the sparks began to fly –  
Electric arcs of lightning flew  
And to the ground the heroes blew!  
The lightning danced across the room,  
Quite sure to spell the heroes doom!  
But Zenna found a back way in  
Before the others did begin.  
Of Zenna the hag did not know  
Until he struck his fatal blow.  
He snuck upon her from behind  
(For he knew she would not be kind)  
And plunged a dagger in her neck –  
So he was useful on this trek!  
As Zenna plundered the hag's hord  
Melellenna took the sword  
From the alter of the ruined shrine,  
Holding it up to see it shine.  
*"I'll call it 'Ghoul Dicer',"* she said  
Of this sword to re-kill the dead.  
Then back they went through that fair wood  
To the bridge where Agar still stood.  
There Melellenna said to him,  
*"No life should ever be so grim."*

*It's time for loneliness to end,  
 Come with us, I'll become your friend."*  
 So Agar joined their company  
 Feeling as happy as could be.  
 So they all went back to Farlowe  
 With their magic treasure to show.  
 There Melellenna did explain,  
*"I hope you'll let Agar remain,  
 For he is not your enemy  
 And I'm sure helpful he can be.  
 When the ghouls come to town tonight  
 The Faerie folk will stand and fight.  
 All the humans should stay inside,  
 But from us the ghouls cannot hide."*  
 And when the night fell on Farlowe  
 The pack of ghouls did quickly show.  
 So Agar took an ax that night  
 And several ghouls the troll did smite,  
 And Xerad also felled a few –  
 To both of them credit is due.  
 But Melellenna killed the most,  
 Slashing though the vile undead host –  
 The magic sword proving its worth,  
 Leaving ghouls laying on the earth  
 As is destroyed all their unlife,  
 And this it helped to end the strife.  
 By morning light no ghoul still stood,  
 The plan had worked just as it should.  
 And when the victory they did see  
 The villagers were filled with glee.  
 They asked Agar if he would stay,  
 And to that he could not say neigh  
 For he was now quite welcome here  
 And knowing that filled him with cheer.  
 To the others they gave a boat  
 So down the river they could float,  
 And find their way back home by sea –  
 They were as grateful as could be.  
 From there they sailed passed golden fields  
 Now ready to produce there yields.

And peaceful copses with brown leaves,  
As the seasons cycle then weaves,  
Until the river went to sea  
Where they turned south most happily.  
Sailing southward along the coast  
That stretched out, silent, like a ghost.  
It was a rough and rocky shore  
With stones the wind and weather wore  
To look like strange statues placed there  
Of monstrous beasts up in the air.  
And then a silent wood replaced  
The great stone beasts they had outpaced,  
So now colorful autumn trees  
They did see swaying in the breeze.  
And then at last they reached the port  
Where good king Roland had his fort.  
Melellenna to the king went,  
Returning from where she was sent,  
And she gave him the ogre's head  
To prove to him the fiend was dead.  
And that night a banquet was held  
To celebrate that he was felled,  
And a parade through the main street  
In honor of the heroes' feat.  
And in return treasure was shared  
And Melellenna was declared  
Duchess of where men fear to go –  
Honorarily, just for show.  
Then Allanis went home by ship  
Now satisfied with her great trip.  
When the celebration was done  
And everyone had had their fun,  
Did Xerad and Melellenna  
Return to Goodholm with Zenna.  
Zenna retired with his wealth  
To enjoy long life and good health.  
Melellenna went off to see  
What off too the west there might be,  
And Xerad went along with her,  
That of her safety he'd be sure.

